



PRESS RELEASE

Kentucky Man Sentenced to Prison for Assaulting Law Enforcement During Jan. 6 Capitol Breach

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of
Columbia

Defendant Assaulted Police at Lower West Terrace

WASHINGTON – A Kentucky man was sentenced to prison today for assaulting law enforcement during the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. His actions and the actions of others disrupted a joint session of the U.S. Congress convened to ascertain and count the electoral votes related to the 2020 presidential election.

Clayton Ray Mullins, 54, of Magnolia, Kentucky, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and 36 months of supervised release by U.S. District Court Judge Rudolph Contreras.

In addition, Mullins was ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution to the Architect of the Capitol, \$30,165 in restitution to a Metropolitan Police Department Officer for medical expenses, and \$49,764 in fines. Mullins pleaded guilty to a felony charge of assaulting, resisting or impeding certain officers on Sept. 6, 2023.

According to court documents, on the morning of Jan. 6, 2021, Mullins attended the “Stop the Steal” rally that was being held at the Ellipse, and afterward marched toward the U.S. Capitol building with others. At about 2:00 p.m., Mullins was amongst the crowd of rioters

gathered on the West Plaza, facing off against an established police line behind a barricaded fence. From about 2:07 p.m. through approximately 2:28 p.m., court documents say that Mullins was actively involved with others in pushing against the barricade and the officers in an attempt advance closer to the Capitol.

At approximately 2:28 p.m., the rioters prevailed and took over the West Plaza, and the police officers retreated to the Lower West Terrace and eventually escaped into the nearest entrance to the Capitol building, a narrow hallway known as the Tunnel. The Tunnel was created by the construction of the Inauguration stage and was the site of some of the most violent attacks against law enforcement on January 6th.

At approximately 4:16 p.m., Mullins made his way to the Archway and began waving other rioters forward to join a group of people pushing to gain access to the Capitol building through the Archway and Tunnel. Mullins then entered the Tunnel himself and joined other rioters attempting to push their way through and into the Capitol building. By about 4:21 p.m., officers inside the Tunnel had pushed the rioters, including Mullins, out and back to the mouth of the Archway. Police then established a defensive line at the Archway.

After exiting the Tunnel, court documents say that Mullins was positioned on the Capitol steps below the Archway. Mullins then leaned over a handrail and made multiple attempts to grab the leg of a Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) officer, who had been knocked to the ground. Eventually, Mullins succeeded, secured his grip on the officer's leg, and violently pulled on it for at least 20 seconds. Ultimately, the officer was dragged down the Capitol steps, where they were further attacked by other rioters. The officer sustained injuries.

After this attack, Mullins turned his attention to another MPD officer who had just been assaulted and dragged down the Capitol steps. When the officer attempted to climb back up the steps to rejoin the other officers in the defensive line at the Archway, Mullins pushed the officer back down the steps and into the crowd of rioters.

The FBI arrested Mullins on Feb. 23, 2021, in Mayfield, Kentucky.

This case was prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Department of Justice National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Kentucky.

This case was investigated by the FBI's Washington and Louisville Field Offices, which identified Mullins as BOLO (Be on the Lookout) #131 on its seeking information photos. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Capitol Police and the Metropolitan Police Department.

In the 36 months since Jan. 6, 2021, more than 1,265 individuals have been charged in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including more than 440

individuals charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement, a felony. The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or visit tips.fbi.gov.

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VIOLENT CRIME

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